

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/543,112

Examiner

Dung Lam

Applicant(s)

MOLLINARI, MAURIZIO

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

The following is the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior arts, **Asakura** (US Patent No. 6,933,369) and **Lou** (US Pub No 2000/0176571) disclose a phone holder but fail to anticipate or render^{obvious} the following underlined limitations "wherein the first and second sidewalls respectively comprise a protruding element protruding towards the inside portion of the holding structure and adapted to engage into respectively apertures of the hinge means of the mobile phone".

Therefore, the independent **claims 1 and 9** are allowed because the prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest the above underlined limitations in combination with the remaining italicized limitations.

1. Regarding **claims 2-8 and 10**, the claims are allowed as being dependent on claims 1 and 9 respectively.

2. *Claim 1, a holder for a clamshell-type mobile phone with a first part and a second part connected to each other and foldable onto each other between a flipped-open state and a flipped-close state by a hinge means, the holder comprising: a holding structure having first and second opposing sidewalls for releasably holding the first part of the mobile phone, the holding structure having a lower sidewall between the first and second sidewalls with a connector configured to releasably connect to a corresponding*

connector of the mobile phone, the first, second and lower sidewalls together defining an inside portion of the holding structure, wherein the first and second sidewalls respectively comprise a protruding element protruding towards the inside portion of the holding structure and adapted to engage into respectively apertures of the hinge means of the mobile phone.

3. *Claim 9, a holder and clamshell-type mobile phone assembly, the assembly comprising: a clamshell-type mobile phone with a first part and a second part connected to each other and foldable onto each other by a hinge means, a holder comprising a holding structure having first and second opposing sidewalls configured to releasably hold the first part of the mobile phone, the holding structure having a lower sidewall with a connector configured to connect to a corresponding connector of the mobile phone, the first, second and lower sidewalls together defining an inside portion of the holding structure, wherein the first and second opposing sidewalls respectively comprise a protruding element protruding towards the inside portion of the holding structure, wherein the hinge means of the mobile phone comprises apertures into which the protruding elements of the holder are configured to engage upon and releasably connect the mobile phone to the holder.*

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung Lam whose telephone number is (571) 272-6497. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER